

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A lock, comprising:

a lock mechanism ~~arranged~~ adapted to receive and lock to an associated keep ;
~~characterised in that the lock comprises;~~

an outer cover which extends over both the lock mechanism and the keep when the keep is locked to the lock and ~~in that the cover~~ which prevents access to both the lock mechanism and the keep;

a bolt adapted to engage with the keep, wherein the bolt is movable by manual operation by a user from a release position in which it extends outside the lock to a locking position in which it engages the keep;

a latching mechanism including a deadlock adapted to engage the bolt in the locking position; and

electronic circuitry comprising:

an antenna adapted to receive an authorization signal from a smart card;

a transceiver adapted to process the authorization signal received from the smart card; and

control means housed within the lock adapted to operate the latching mechanism in response to the transceiver processing the authorization signal.

2. (Currently Amended) The lock of claim 1, wherein those components of the lock mechanism which retain the keep in a locked position within the lock are located within the lock, and the lock cover is profiled such that a cutting/grinding disk extending in excess of approximately 20 mm from ~~[[the]]~~ a body of a cutter would be required to sever those components and release the keep.
3. (Previously Presented) The lock of claim 1, wherein the cover comprises dissimilar materials selected to resist cutting by a cutting disk.
4. (Currently Amended) The lock of claim 1, wherein the ~~[[lock]]~~ outer cover comprises ceramic inserts attached thereto.

5. (Currently Amended) The lock of claim 1, wherein the ~~[[lock]]~~ outer cover comprises hardened steel inserts attached thereto.
6. (Currently Amended) The lock of claim 1, wherein the ~~[[lock]]~~ outer cover is cast and hardened on at least one surface thereof.
7. (Currently Amended) The lock of claim 1, wherein the outer cover protects the lock from the weather.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Currently Amended) The lock of claim ~~[[8]]~~ 1, wherein the electronic circuitry comprises a keypad aligned with an aperture in the outer cover permitting the lock to be operated when a correct code is entered on the keypad.
- 10-11. (Cancelled)
12. (Currently Amended) The lock of claim ~~[[11]]~~ 1, wherein the electronic circuitry comprises a wake up mode which is activated by the user operating the ~~mechanical linkage~~ bolt.
13. (Currently Amended) The lock of claim ~~[[11]]~~ 1, wherein the ~~mechanical linkage bolt~~ comprises a cylinder lock ~~arranged~~ adapted to release the lock manually when operated by ~~[[the]]~~ a correct key.
14. (Currently Amended) The lock of claim ~~[[8]]~~ 1, wherein the electronic circuitry controls an actuator which releases the ~~mechanical~~ latching mechanism.
15. (Currently Amended) The lock of claim 14, wherein the actuator is a piezoelectric actuator.
- 16-19. (Cancelled)
20. (Currently Amended) The lock of claim ~~[[11]]~~ 1, wherein the electronic circuitry comprises a wake up mode which is activated by the user operating the ~~mechanical linkage~~ bolt.

wherein the control means is further adapted to operate the latching mechanism in response to the wake up mode of the electronic circuitry being activated.

21. (New) The lock of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuitry further comprises a sleep mode which is activated automatically after the lock is latched closed.
22. (New) The lock of claim 3, wherein the dissimilar materials are further selected to clog the cutting disk.
23. (New) The lock of claim 1, wherein the control means further comprises an actuator.
24. (New) The lock of claim 23, wherein the actuator further comprises at least one of a motorized actuator and a piezoelectric actuator.
25. (New) The lock of claim 1, further comprising a mechanical security cylinder adapted to override the electronic circuitry.
26. (New) The lock of claim 25, further comprising a follower adapted to displace the latching mechanism, wherein the mechanical security cylinder further comprises a cam face adapted to displace the follower to cause the follower to displace the latching mechanism.
27. (New) The lock of claim 26, further comprising a spring adapted to operate the bolt when the follower displaces the latching mechanism.